

# DAY OF THE LORD

## PART II

by Michael C. Garrett

### the 'days of vengeance'

During the evening hours of Tuesday, January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2010, we began to hear [reports about an extremely severe earthquake](#) near the capital of Haiti, Port-au-Prince. This 7.0 shaking was devastating to this island nation - because the epicenter of the quake was just a few miles from its major city and relatively close to the earth's surface! Combined with the fact that Haiti for decades and centuries has had substandard and inadequate construction standards and practices, so a lot of those buildings just crumbled into dust. Over the days and weeks of that horrific event, we have been exposed to countless images and reports of the destruction, the havoc, misery, suffering and death, that has descended upon this already impoverished and destitute people. The scenes which we have viewed on our television sets and computer screens, newspapers and magazines, convey a reality. A reality which is so intense, so profound, so overwhelmingly shocking, that our minds cannot grasp, comprehend, and encompass the monumental scale of human agony, horror, and wretchedness. Brian Wilson this morning on *Fox News* saying, he had been in Haiti and he said the camera doesn't even begin to tell the story. I remember people who had gone down to the coast after the aftermath of [Hurricane Katrina](#) said the same thing! The camera only shows you a small portion of the picture, when in real life you're seeing 180° no matter where you look – combined with the smell – which I guess is just devastating!

And yet, the ultimate reality as relayed through the passages of Biblical prophecy, is that this Haitian experience is just a foretaste, a preview, an illustration, an example or sampling of what will befall upon all the nations

and the people of the entire world! In what is probably the not-too-distant future!

In the Words of Jesus Christ from the “Olivet Prophecy,” **Matthew chapter 24** – we’ve read these before, but, it’s good to stay in touch with what Jesus said! **Verses 6-8** – “**And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not troubled; for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. 7) For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places. 8) All these are the beginning of sorrows.**” – and then in **Verse 21** – “**For then ...**” – following the ‘abomination of desolation’ mentioned in [the first part of this series](#) – “**...there will be great tribulation [or ‘great trouble’s], ...**” – remember in Jeremiah chapter 30 we hear the phrase ‘Jacob’s troubles’! “**...such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be.**” **Mark chapter 13** – Mark’s version of the “Olivet Prophecy” – very similar. **Verses 7-8** – “**But when you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be troubled; for such things must happen, but the end is not yet. 8) For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be earthquakes in various places, and there will be famines and troubles. ...**” – think about the conditions which have transpired in Haiti following the earthquake – if the earthquake wasn’t bad enough, now they have shortage of water, food, pestilence (we’ve heard about cholera, and all the different diseases that love to take over in such horrible conditions).

Well ‘**these are the beginnings of sorrows**’ Jesus said, and in **Verse 19**, Mark gave this little description – “**For in those days there will be [affliction; days of distress, oppression, tribulation, trouble], such as has not been since the beginning of the creation which God created until this time, nor ever shall be.**”

And then we have **Luke’s** version in **chapter 21** – similar, but just a little different. **Verse 9** – “**But when you hear of wars and commotions, do not be terrified; for these things must come to pass first, but the end will not come immediately. 10) Then He said to them, ‘Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. 11) And there will be great earthquakes in various places, and famines and pestilences; and there will be fearful sights and great signs from heaven.’**” **Verse 22** – and this is a verse I really want you to keep in mind TODAY, I’m going to refer to it two or three

times. “For these are **the days of vengeance**, that *all things which are written* may be fulfilled.”

Well, that phrase, ‘**all things which are written**,’ the question is “written where!?” The obvious answer is - written in the pages of your Bible! Moses referred to these ‘**days of vengeance**.’ King David referred to these ‘**days of vengeance**’ in the psalms. All of the “major” prophets have this event as a major theme! All of the “minor” prophets have this as a major theme! Jesus Christ mentioned this event – which we just read! Paul makes multiple references to these ‘**days of vengeance**.’ Peter wrote about it! Jude mentioned this event! And the Book of Revelation, by John, is dedicated to giving as many specifics about these ‘**days of vengeance**.’

As I’ve mentioned before, the phrase ‘**the days of vengeance**’ begs the question, “Who’s vengeance!?” And the answer is clear – God’s vengeance! Often referred to in the Bible as ‘the Day of the LORD.’ The ‘Day of the LORD’ doesn’t just mean twenty-four hours – in the Hebrew and in the Greek it means “a period of time.” The Day of the LORD – a period of trouble’s. Or what I often call the end-time trauma. A series or progression of end-time events in which God Almighty and Jesus Christ pour out Their judgment upon a sick, sin filled and rebellious world! Just as God destroyed the world in the days of Noah. So that He could start over! Just as God brought an end to the Levitical priesthood and its religious descendants as manifested in the temple elite of the Pharisees and Sadducees, so that it could be replaced by the Priesthood of Jesus Christ! According to the same pattern, God is also going to destroy *this* world! Its leaders, its governments, its armies, its religions, its economy, its morals, ethics, mores, its cities and a large segment of its people! And the question is – why!? So that, or, in order that, He can start over and make it anew and make it right as He establishes the Kingdom of God – the government of God – on this Earth! And we have been thinking of that all the years of our existence – since our conversion! The kingdom of God, ‘**seek ye first the kingdom of God**.’

Well the pages of the Bible are filled with information about this event! Without question the Day of the LORD is the single most prophesied event in the Bible – bar none. And I do not believe over the decades we have appreciated and treasured, valued, the significant, the magnitude, the importance of this Biblical Message.

Here recently – and it’s understandable – we have had our attention focused on the tragedy which has occurred and will continue to occur in Haiti. And yes, throughout recorded history, there have been earthquakes! But it sure does seem to me – in my life, my relatively short lifetime – that they are striking us at an ever accelerating pace. And the Words of Jesus Christ in the “Olivet Prophecy” – which we just read – seem to imply or indicate that they will continue to increase. In both frequency and in scale. There are multiple references to future earthquakes mentioned in the Bible, and these earthquakes which are mentioned in various prophecies are directly linked to the end-time event known as the ‘Day of the LORD.’ Let’s real quickly take a look at a few.

## Earthquakes



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**Isaiah chapter 2, verse 12** – it mentions, “For the Day of the LORD of hosts Shall come upon [everyone] proud and lofty, ...” And then it says down in **Verse 19** – “They shall go into the holes of the rocks, ...” – very similar to what we read in the Book of Revelation. “...And into the caves of the earth, From the terror of the LORD And the glory of His majesty, When He arises to shake the earth mightily.” And then in

**Isaiah chapter 29, verse 6** – “You will be punished by the LORD of hosts With thunder and earthquake and great noise, With storm and tempest And the flame of devouring fire.” Also, Joel (one of the “minor” prophets). And, we don’t read much from the Book of Joel, maybe we should. **Joel chapter 2** – the Book of Joel is dedicated to the Day of the LORD! **Verse 1** – “Blow the trumpet in Zion, And sound an alarm in My holy mountain! Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble’ For the Day of the LORD is coming, ...” And then down in **Verse 10** – “The earthquakes before them, the heavens tremble; The Sun and Moon grow dark, And the stars diminish their brightness. **11**) The LORD gives voice before His army, For His camp is very great; For strong is the One who executes His Word. For the Day of the LORD is great and very terrible; Who can endure it?” Also, the Book of **Haggai** – again, we don’t read from the Book of Haggai

too often. **Chapter 2, verses 6-7** – “For thus says the LORD of hosts: ‘Once more (it is a little while) I will shake heaven and earth, the sea and dry land; 7) and I will shake all nations, ...’” And then, Zechariah, another so-called “minor” prophet. And they’re “minor” only because they’re relatively short Books. The Message of the “minor” prophets is profound! **Zechariah chapter 14, verse 1** – “Behold, the Day of the LORD is coming, ...” **Verse 4** – a verse which we’ve heard many times over decades in the Church of God – “And in that Day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, which faces Jerusalem on the east.” – but what we don’t normally think about is the next part of the verse – “...And the Mount of Olives shall be split in two, From east to west, Making a very large valley; ...” – folks, mountains don’t just split in two! Without there being a tremendous earthquake! “...Half of the mountain shall move toward the north And half of it toward the south. 5) Then you shall flee through My mountain valley, For the mountain valley shall reach to Azal.” – which is actually where King David once lived. “...Yes, you shall flee As you fled from the earthquake In the days of Uzziah king of Judah. ...” And then, notice what happens right after that. “... Thus the LORD my God will come, And all the saints with You.” – that’s the resurrected saint’s of God! Hopefully all of you reading this article!

Well, notice Revelation chapter 6 – Revelation as I said is just filled with all types of details about the Day of the LORD! And you know this, because John states in Verse 10 of chapter 1 – and this is so funny to me, and I’m sort-of adding this as a side, but so many of the Protestants try to use verse 10 as a proof text for Sunday worship. I feel sorry for them, I’m embarrassed for them. They could do better than *this*! He says, “I was in the Spirit on the Lord’s Day, ...” – no, that’s not well translated. ‘I was in the Spirit ...’ John was being led *in* the Spirit – seeing his visions – ‘on the Day of the LORD.’ That’s what *that* means! The Day of the LORD! The Book of Revelation is dedicated to the Day of the LORD!

And, in **Revelation chapter 6, verse 12** – and this is the SIXTH SEAL and it says, “I looked when He opened the sixth seal, and behold, there was a great earthquake; and the Sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the Moon became like blood. 13) And *the stars of heaven fell to the earth, ...*” – and I think that might also mean the demons are cast out! “...as a fig tree drops its late figs when it is shaken by a mighty wind.”



And it goes on to talk about this horrible event – **Verse 15** – “And the kings of the earth, the great men, the rich men, the commanders, the mighty men, every [bondman] and every free man, ...” – instead of going to God and saying, “O’ God forgive me!” What do they do!? “...hid themselves in the caves and in the rocks of the mountains and rocks, ...” – just like we read just a little bit before! **Verse 16** – “and said to the mountains and rocks, ‘Fall on us and hide us from the face of Him [God the Father] who sits on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb [Jesus Christ]! 17) For the great Day of His wrath has come, ...” Then, **Revelation chapter 8** – this is right before the SEVEN TRUMPETS begin to occur, which is a series of prophetic events. **Verse 2** – it mentions the seven trumpets – **Verse 3** – “Then another angel, having a golden censer, came and stood at the altar. He was given much incense, that he should offer it with the prayers of all saints ...” – as a side, isn’t that a wonderful concept, that our prayers go up unto God and they’re almost like a holy ointment that God keeps in a “special bowl.” That He looks upon as beautiful! “...upon the golden altar which was before the throne. 4) And the smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints, ascended before God from the angel’s hand. 5) Then the angel took the censer, filled it with fire from the altar, and threw it to the earth. And there were noises, thunderings, lightnings, and an earthquake.” And then it says, **Verse 6** – “So the seven angels who had the seven trumpets prepared themselves to sound.” So another reference to an end-time earthquake activity.

**Revelation chapter 11, verse 13** – much of this chapter is talking about the [Two Witnesses](#) and their work. But right after the resurrection of the Two Witnesses, notice, “In the same hour there was a great earthquake, and a tenth of the city fell. In the earthquake seven thousand people were killed, ...” – and I presume this is referring to Jerusalem. How a massive earthquake kills a great many – probably some not so good guys! Because it says right at the end of that, “...the rest [the remnant] were afraid and gave glory to the God of Heaven.” The remnant of God’s people that were still alive on the earth. Notice **Verse 18** – a little later on – “The nations were angry, and Your wrath has come, And the time of the dead, that they should be judged, And that You should reward Your servants the prophets and the saints, And those who fear Your name, small and great, And should destroy those who destroy the earth.’ 19) Then the temple of God was opened in heaven, and the ark of His covenant was seen in His temple. And there were lightnings, noises, thunderings, an earthquake, and great hail.”

So again, right near the end of everything another series of earthquakes!

**Revelation chapter 16, verse 14** – talking about ‘the battle of that great Day of God Almighty.’ This is when the Day of the LORD actually comes to a pinnacle of intensity! **Verse 16** – “And they gathered them together to the place called in Hebrew, Armageddon.” – the [Valley of Megiddo](#). Tel Megiddo. A valley north of Jerusalem.

And then, a voice says, “It is done!” **Verse 18** – “And there were noises and thunderings and lightnings; and there was a great earthquake as had not occurred since men were on the earth. **19**) Now the great city was divided into three parts, ...” so, again, another. Many mentions of earthquakes in the end-time scenario. Especially when you’re talking about the Day of the LORD!

Well, remember again, that little expression we read a little earlier – *‘these are the days of vengeance.’*

### **Another side to God’s persona**

In the minds of many people – and understandably so – there is a firmly affixed concept and notion that God is a God of love, mercy, kindness, patience, gentleness. And yes He is! Especially to those people who respect Him, love Him, obey Him, and endeavor to serve Him! And that’s what we are doing here TODAY – we are endeavoring, attempting, to serve Him. And the work which comes out of this Church. However, there is another side to God’s persona!

**Hebrews chapter 10, verses 30-31** – “For we know Him who said, *‘Vengeance is Mine, ...’*” – Paul quotes the same verse. It’s an Old Testament verse when he says, “...*‘Vengeance is Mine, I will repay,’* says the Lord. And again, *‘The LORD will judge His people.’* **31**) It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.” – especially into the hands of an angry God!

Remember, “*For these are **the days of vengeance**, that all things which are written may be fulfilled.*”

Let’s get an inside of God’s thinking – let’s go back to the very beginning, as it were, Genesis chapter 6. There’s an awful lot of sermons about God’s graciousness and His mercy – and I love those concepts and if it wasn’t for that I wouldn’t be here and neither would you – but there is another aspect to God’s personality that maybe we don’t stop and think about. I’ll tell you

this – when I put together these Scriptures for this sermon, I found myself almost, in my inner most being, weak. I thought, this is AWESOME, in true respect. This is big time!

**Genesis chapter 6, verse 3** – “And the LORD said, ‘My Spirit shall not strive with man forever, ...’” – I have a feeling He’s thinking that once again! “...yet his days shall be one hundred and twenty years.’ – in reference to Noah and the building of the Ark. But notice **Verse 5** – “Then the LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, ...” – and I love this – on three different levels He talks about ... “...and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was ONLY evil continually.” – every thought, every imagination, ‘evil continually.’ **Verse 6** – “And the LORD was sorry that He had made man on the earth, and He was grieved in His heart. 7) So the LORD said, ‘I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth, ...’” – and then **Verse 11** – “The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence. 12) So God looked upon the earth, and indeed it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted their way on the earth. 13) And God said to Noah, ‘The end of all flesh has come before Me, for the earth is filled with violence through them; and behold, I will destroy them [along with] the earth.’” – and He did! And then He went about the process of remaking it!

Well, there are critics, there are cynic’s, unbelievers, who would tempt to mock, ridicule and taunt God and His Message and His Word by asking the question – “How can a so-called loving God,” they would say it derisively I’m sure, “destroy the creation, the creatures, and the human beings which He claims that He has made!?” Well, God is not arbitrary, not capricious, not whimsical. And He’s not cruel, not sadistic, and not a psychopath. Without any question, God indeed does possess and manifest a huge, immense and vast, sense of affection, care, and dedication to His creation and to His human occupants! “God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son” to be a sacrifice for all human kind! Jesus so loved the world that He risked His eternal existence to be tortured to death in order to offer a path of salvation to *all* people!

However, God is highly principled. With a system of equity, judgment and justice. One of the most fundamental teachings in the entire Bible is *this* – and this is my paraphrase – ‘In the end, when it’s all said and done, everyone will receive exactly what they deserve!’ That’s one of the main messages of the Bible!



There are many passages which talk about it. I'm just gonna name a few quickly. **Isaiah chapter 59, verse 18** – “According to their deeds, accordingly He will repay, Fury to His adversaries, Recompense to His enemies; ...” **Ezekiel chapter 7** – and I want to place this into context – why the Day of the LORD!? Why is it going to happen!? What's the higher level working here!? And in God's world He sees things differently. He says, ‘My thoughts are not your thoughts. My ways are not your ways.’ **Verse 1** – “Moreover the Word of the LORD came to me, saying, **2)** ‘And you, son of man, thus says the Lord GOD to the land of Israel: ‘An end! The end has come upon the four corners of the land.’” – and we know who we think Israel is! **Verse 3** – “Now the end has come upon you, And I will send My anger against you; I will judge you according to your ways, And I will repay you for all your abominations. **4)** My eye will not spare you, Nor will I have pity; But I will repay your ways, ...” – ‘you will in the end get what you deserve.’ And I again have to wonder what the issue of abortion – how that fits in God's mind!? I do not believe He looks upon it kindly! He did not look upon – in ancient days – when what He called ‘heathens’ would sacrifice their children to their so-called god! He destroyed people because of that! And I don't think He's very happy with what we are doing in our so-called Western civilized world, where millions upon millions of unborn babies have never had a chance to live – perfect innocence – destroyed before they ever had a chance to live! And, that's a different topic, but I do believe it's a part of all of this! **Ezekiel chapter 16, verse 43** – “...‘surely I will also recompense your deeds on your own head,’ ...” – and then He says over in **Verse 59** – “...‘I will deal with you as you have done, ...’” – ‘I'm just gonna deal with you as you deserve.’ And there are many other Scriptures. Let's turn to the Book of **Revelation** and get one near the end. **Chapter 22, verse 10** – “...for the time is at hand. **11)** He who is unjust, let him be unjust still; he who is filthy, let him be filthy still; he who is righteous, let him be righteous still; he who is holy, let him be holy still.’ **12)** ‘**And behold, I AM coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to give to every one according to his work.**’” – ‘I'm gonna deal with you exactly the way you deserve to be treated!’

Then, once again, I'm gonna say this - “**For these are *the days of vengeance*, that *all things which are written* may be fulfilled.**”

This planet is in for such a shock! The nations of this world including our own beloved country! The people of this world are blindly proceeding down a path – they have no conception, no idea, no thought, no notion to the jolt of frightening and terrifying reality that is soon going to descend upon them! Remember all of the images that you have seen of the destruction of [the 2010 earthquake in Haiti](#) and of the Haitian people! Their plight, their predicament, is our future horror in reality! Remember what you’ve seen! Let’s gain a little bit of insight into God’s perspective.

**Isaiah chapter 1** – **His sense of justice**. How He views our people. I remember Mr. [Garner Ted Armstrong](#) would often quote this verse. And it does, sort-of, help us to understand God’s thinking. **Verse 2** – “Hear, O heavens, and give ear, O earth! For the LORD has spoken: ‘I have nourished and brought up children, And they have rebelled against Me; **3**) The ox knows its owner And the donkey its master’s crib; But Israel does not know. My people do not consider.’ **4**) Alas, sinful nation, A people laden with iniquity, A brood of evildoers, Children who are corrupters! They have forsaken the LORD, They have provoked to anger The Holy One of Israel, They have turned away backward.” He said, **Verse 5** – “...The whole head is sick, And the whole heart faints. **6**) From the sole of the foot even to the head, There is no soundness in it, But wounds and bruises and putrefying sores; ... **7**) Your country is desolate, Your cities are burned with fire; Strangers devour your land in your presence; And it is desolate as overthrown by strangers. ... **19**) ‘If you are willing and obedient, You shall eat the good of the land; **20**) But if you refuse and rebel, You shall be devoured by the sword [warfare]’.” **Verse 23** – “Your princes are rebellious, And companions of thieves; ...” – does that remind you of some things that are going on in our nations capital!? “...’Everyone loves bribes, And follows after rewards. They do not defend the fatherless, Nor does the cause of the widow come before them.” – this is how God looks upon our people! He says in **Verse 25** – “I will turn My hand against you, ...”

**Isaiah chapter 2, verses 8-9** – “Their land is also full of idols [false worship]; They worship the work of their own hands, ... **9**) [The mean; the average man] bow down, And [the great] man humbles himself; Therefore do not forgive them.” – they humble before these objects their adoration. False religion. **Verse 11** – “The lofty looks of man shall be humbled, The haughtiness of men shall be bowed down, And the LORD alone shall be

exalted in that Day. **12)** For the Day of the LORD of hosts Shall come upon [everyone] proud and lofty, Upon [everyone] lifted up – And it shall be brought low.” **Verse 17** – “The loftiness of man shall be bowed down, And the haughtiness of men shall be brought low; The LORD alone will be exalted in that Day, **18)** But the idols He shall utterly abolish. **19)** They shall go into the holes of the rocks, And into the caves of the earth, ...” – like we read earlier, where He said, ‘I’m going to terribly shake the earth!’ and in that Day, only God will matter!

Notice **Isaiah chapter 34, verse 1** – “Come near, you nations, to hear; And heed, you people! Let the earth hear, and all that is in it, The world and all things that come forth from it. **2)** For the indignation of the LORD is against all nations, And His fury against all their armies; He [will] utterly [destroy] them. He [will give] them over to the slaughter. **3)** Also their slain shall be thrown out; Their stench shall rise from their corpses, And the mountains [the nations] shall be melted with their blood.” – that’s pretty graphic terminology! **Verse 7** – “The wild oxen shall come down with them, And the young bulls with the mighty bulls; Their land shall be soaked with blood, ... **8)** For it is the Day of the LORD’S vengeance, The year of recompense for the cause of Zion.” – and everywhere!

**Isaiah chapter 63** – He again talks about “the Day of vengeance is in My heart.” And, **Jeremiah chapter 46, verse 10** – He said, “For this is the Day of the Lord GOD of hosts, A Day of vengeance, That He may avenge Himself on His adversaries.” **Micah chapter 5**, He says in **verses 14-15** – “...’Thus I will destroy your cities. **15)** And I will execute vengeance in anger and fury On the nations that have not heard.” – remember the phrase, “...’such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be.” **Nahum chapter 1, verse 2** – from the Soncino Books of the Bible – “The LORD is a jealous and avenging God. The LORD avengeth and is full of wrath; The LORD taketh vengeance on His adversaries, And He reserveth wrath for His enemies. ... **6)** Who can stand before His indignation? And who can abide in the fierceness of His anger? His fury is poured out like fire, ...”

Well, these prophetic announcements and proclamations *are* disturbing! They’re unsettling. They’re upsetting. And this sermon – the Day of the LORD part II – is not a fun sermon to give.

This sermon actually troubled me as I put the words together. And yet it is a Message which must be given. As we read and comprehend these powerful warnings from the Word of God – *we*, the Church of God – must focus our attention on understanding that the only way of escape - the only way that you can avoid this... 1) it's not very good – death. 2) is to be protected from these approaching calamities and disasters – to cling to God! I use that phrase – CLING TO GOD! There was [a mighty personality in Washington, D.C.](#) who used that phrase *mockingly*! Who said, “they cling to guns or religion.” Well folks, I hope that every one of us wraps our arms around the feet and legs of Jesus Christ and beg Him, “Take care of us, pull us across the finish line!” Because it is only through God and His protection that we have a chance. There is no other way of escape! The one way to get out of this is to trust in Jesus Christ! To depend upon Him and His Word and to be a part of His work! And I say it again – TO BE A PART OF HIS WORK! Not sitting at home having some living-room church, make believing that you're having church! There's people who are out there – not because they can't go to Church. Now, you live in Florida, and there's not anyone within 800 miles, I understand you being in your office. But to have an opportunity to go to Church and be a part of the Body of Christ - and yet, all you do is just sit around and make believe that you're going to church – to make believe that you're spiritual. You are fooling yourself! You are deceiving yourself! Become an active part of the Church of God and of the Work of God! It's your only hope!

**Luke chapter 21** – He said it in the “Olivet Prophecy,” we've said it so many times – “**Watch therefore, and pray always that you may be counted worthy to escape all these things that will come to pass, ...**” – and number two – “**...and to stand before the Son of man.**” – to be resurrected as a member of the Church of God – the Body of Christ!

Notice **1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians chapter 5** – Paul wrote this, and he was talking about the time of the end! He was talking about the days leading up to the ‘Day of the LORD’! He's talking to *us* my friends from nearly two-thousand years ago! **Verse 2** – “For you yourselves know perfectly that the Day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night. **3)** For when they say, ‘Peace and safety!’ then sudden destruction comes upon them, as labor pains upon a pregnant woman. And they shall not escape. **4)** But you, brethren, are not in darkness, so that this Day should overtake you as a thief. **5)** You are all

[children] of the light and [children] of the day. We are not of the night nor of darkness. **6)** Therefore let us not sleep, as others do, but let us watch and be sober. **7)** For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk [drunk physically and spiritually] are drunk at night. **8)** But let us who are of the day be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love, and as a helmet the hope of salvation.” – and these are wonderful words – **Verse 9** – “For God did not appoint us to wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ...” – both physical salvation and spiritual salvation. “...**10)** who died for us, that whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with Him. **11)** Therefore comfort each other and edify one another, just as you also are doing.” – and I don’t think in the Church of God we edify each other as much as we should! We are the only things we’ve got – we are family! You remember that wonderful song a few years ago, back in the ‘80s – “[We Are Family!](#)”? Well we are! But sometimes we don’t treat each other like we’re family. I wish we would! I think Jesus Christ wants us to, I know that God would bless us if we would!

## Conclusion

We must keep these thoughts in mind, because the only source of protection possible for all of us is the protection which comes from Jesus Christ, God Almighty, and Their angels! I will say to all of you – may God bless you, may He keep you, may He bless the Church of God, may He bless the Work of God. And in the end, I’m just gonna say one more time – remember those photos that you have seen from the devastation of [the 2010 Haitian earthquake](#), without God’s protection that is your future! With God’s protection, that will not be your future. Remember, pray, watch, learn, study, and be thankful to God because He is the Rock of our salvation!

*Owensboro Church of Jesus Christ is based upon the WORD of God, the TRUTH of God, and the PLAN of God. Our mission and our purpose is to follow the admonition of Jesus Christ, when He said, "**FEED MY SHEEP**" We do the will of God the Father and Jesus Christ to preach the Gospel - the good news of Jesus Christ, of His forgiveness, of His atoning sacrifice, of the opportunity for us all to have Jesus Christ as our great High Priest and to live under the promises of the New Covenant, and to someday be a part of the glorious Kingdom of God!*

## Owensboro Church of Jesus Christ

English language website: <http://www.owensborochurchofjesuschrist.com/>

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### **YouTube Video Channels for Sermons & Sermonettes**

**Owensboro Church of Jesus Christ** channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCwFd99BMoEXyAdM7MWtKcJw>

**Trevor Koonce** channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCZtjCCj7C Arb -6io9tV2Ng>

**Leonard V. Johnson** channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC9SoDU4XpzdeYeOLf3Ydk9w>

### **Owensboro Church of Jesus Christ digital library:**

[https://archive.org/details/@owensboro\\_church\\_of\\_jesus\\_christ](https://archive.org/details/@owensboro_church_of_jesus_christ)